

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 13-20, 26, 27, 30 and 31 are now present in the case. Claims 4, 9-12, 21-25, 28 and 29 have been canceled to expedite prosecution; and Claims 1, 5, 7, 8 and 17-20 have been amended. Applicants have carefully considered the cited references and the Examiner's comments and believe the claims as amended herein patentably distinguish over the references and are allowable in their present form. Reconsideration of the rejection is, accordingly, respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 16, 18, 19, 26 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarzer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5, 644, 628) in view of Lazzouni et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,652,412).

Claim 1, as amended herein, is directed to a system for controlling an electronic device that includes a display screen. The system also includes a specially formatted surface that includes a predefined address pattern and that further includes at least one field for use in performing a control function with respect to a display on the display screen of the electronic device. In addition, the system includes an address pattern reading device for detecting a portion of the predefined address pattern wherein a position of the reading device on the specially formatted surface can be determined using the detected portion of the address pattern, and wherein a position of the reading device with respect to the at least one field controls the display on the display screen.

Thus, according to Claim 1, a display on a display screen of an electronic device can be controlled by controlling the position of the reading device with respect to the at least one field.

The cited references fail to disclose or suggest the subject matter of amended Claim 1. Schwarzer discloses a telecommunications terminal that includes a touch sensitive input-output unit to control functions of the terminal. In Schwarzer, a pen 9 directly presses against, writes on or otherwise directly operates on the input-output unit. Schwarzer does not disclose a system that includes both an electronic device having a display screen and a specially formatted surface, whereby the position of a reading device with respect to a field on the specially formatted surface controls a display on the display screen. With the present invention, the pen need not operate directly on a display screen or the like, but can operate on a separate specially formatted surface that may, for example, be remote from the display screen.

The secondary reference to Lazzouni appears to disclose an information recording system that includes a formatted writing paper and a pen for writing on the paper. A recording unit is coupled to the pen and electronically records a representation of markings made by the pen on the writing surface using position information of the pen with respect to the writing surface. The system of Lazzouni can, for example, store an electronic representation of handwritten material in a computer or another storage medium for later retrieval.

Lazzouni also does not disclose or suggest that the position of a reading device with respect to a field on a specially formatted surface can be used to control a display on a display screen of an electronic device, and, therefore, does not supply the deficiencies in Schwarzer. Furthermore, Schwarzer is directed to a telecommunications terminal that includes a touch sensitive input-output unit to control functions of the terminal, and Lazzouni is directed to a system for electronically

recording a representation of markings made by a pen on a writing surface. The references thus have different objectives and the objective of each reference differs from the objective of the present invention to control a display on a display screen using a reading device in conjunction with a specially formatted surface. Thus, there is no motivation disclosed in either reference for combining them as proposed by the Examiner to achieve the present invention.

Claim 1, accordingly, is believed to patentably distinguish over the references and to be allowable in its present form.

Claims 2, 5 and 16 depend from Claim 1 and should also be allowable in their present form.

Independent Claim 18 has also been amended to emphasize that a display on a display screen of an electronic device is controlled by performing a control function corresponding to at least one detected position on a specially formatted surface with a reading device. This claim patentably distinguishes over the references for substantially the same reasons as discussed above with respect to Claim 1, and should be allowable in its present form along with dependent Claims 19, 26 and 29.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarzer and Lazzouni, and further in view of Kazunuki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,667). Kazunuki does not supply the deficiencies of the principal references as discussed above, and Claim 6 should also be allowable in its present form, at least by virtue of its dependency.

Claims 7, 8 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S. C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Schwarzer and Lazzouni, and further in view of Tanimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,844,561).

Claim 7, as amended, is directed to an embodiment of the invention in which the at least one field comprises a navigation field and in which the display includes a cursor. The position of the reading device with respect to the navigation field controls the position of the cursor on the display screen.

Tanimoto discloses an information search apparatus that includes an input pen that contacts a display screen directly for controlling a function cursor. Tanimoto, accordingly, is similar to Schwarzer in that the pen directly contacts the display screen. Tanimoto does not suggest controlling a cursor by moving or otherwise positioning a reading device with respect to a navigation field on a specially formatted surface. Claim 7, accordingly, together with Claim 8 dependent thereon and Claim 20, should all be allowable in their present form.

Claims 3, 13, 14 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarzer and Lazzouni, and further in view of DeSchrijver (U.S. Patent No. 6,311,042 B1). DeSchrijver does not overcome the deficiencies in the primary references as described above, and these claims should all be allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from either Claim 1 or 18.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarzer, Lazzouni, and DeSchrijver, and further in view of Croy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,476,825 B1). Croy does not supply the deficiencies discussed above with respect to Schwarzer and Lazzouni, and Claim 15 should be allowable in its present form, at least by virtue of its dependency.

Claims 17, 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwarzer and Lazzouni, and further in view of Tanaka (U.S. Patent No. 5,453,761). Tanaka appears

to describe a system for inputting data on a display panel by means of a pen, wherein changing the angle of the pen relative to the panel changes a function to be processed. As an example, the reference indicates that rotation of the pen can cause a turning of page numbers.

Tanaka does not disclose or suggest that a position of a reading device with respect to a field on a specially formatted surface can control a display on a display screen of an electronic device as recited in the independent claims. As described in the specification, for example, the reading device, when provided with a joystick function, can be used to play a video game or the like on the display screen. Accordingly, Claims 17, 30 and 31 should be allowable in their present form.

For all the above reasons, Claims 1-3, 5-8, 13-20, 26, 27, 30 and 31 are believed to be allowable in their present form and this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is, accordingly, respectfully requested that the Examiner so find and issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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